

REMARKS

This application is submitted as US National Phase of PCT Application No. PCT/IL2004/001134, filed on December 15, 2004.

The present amendments are offered in consideration of the Written Opinion in the PCT case.

Independent claims 1, and 34 have been amended to more clearly differentiate them from US 5,540,715 (hereinafter Katsaros). Claims 6-17 and 21 have been amended to bring them into conformity with amended claim 1. Limits of claim 22 have been introduced into claim 1. Claim 22, redundant in view of this amendment to claim 1, has been cancelled.

Independent claim 28 has not been amended.

Claims 1 and 34 as currently amended are directed towards a balloon placed outside the blood vessel and an anchor placed within the lumen of the blood vessel. In sharp contrast, Katsaros discloses an opposite configuration in which an anchor is located outside the blood vessel and a balloon is within the lumen of the blood vessel. In sharp contrast, Katsaros discloses a balloon within the lumen of the blood vessel. Claim 28 is directed towards a biodegradable check valve. Katsaros does not teach such a valve and does not hint or fairly suggest that such a valve would be necessary, useful, advantageous or even feasible to implement.

New dependent claims 47-50 are entered. Support for these new claims is found in the specification on page 16; lines 12-6.


The Applicant respectfully contends that none of the amendments to the claims introduce new matter into the application.

Claims 2-5; 18-20; 22-27; 29-33 and 35-46 are cancelled herewith. These cancelled claims may be filed in a continuation to this application in due course.

The Applicant respectfully suggests that independent claims 1, 28, 34 and dependent claims 2-21 are in condition for allowance because they are free of the art of record.

Prompt notice of allowance is earnestly and respectfully requested. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conversation may forward the present application toward allowance, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call the undersigned at 1 (877) 428-5468. Please note that this is a direct *toll free* number in the US that is answered in the undersigned's Israel office. Israel is 7 hours ahead of Washington.

Respectfully submitted,
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